

manganate in the wound. We also gave the child some coffee. He pronounced my treatment correct and we did not wait for the next doctor, who came an hour or so after. 'The little girl did well, her limb only swelling very slightly.

How important we think ourselves and how lowly we seem to others! Another octogenarian, who sometimes condescends to drive a cab, after explaining to some of our arriving friends the various peculiarities of my sisters, remarked of me: "She is only a public nurse in New York City," charitably, however, did he then add, "but all very nice ladies."

Our laborious training and education—how they are ignored in the mountains! "Oh, I would like to be a nurse," said to me a sweet little mountain maiden. "The dressmaker in the village told me she had a friend that went to the hospital, and oh, it wasn't hard at all; she didn't need to stay very long, just took a few learns, and then she knowed it all!"

CHRISTMAS TIME AT SANTA FE HOSPITAL

By A. C. TRUSS, R.N.

FOR beauty of location Santa Fe Hospital is unequalled. On the heights of Los Angeles she stands, guarding the city to her right, and looking out on the circling range of mountains, on whose peaks the snow lies white, and at whose base the orange and the lemon trees flourish. The hospital is built in semi-mission style with deep porches and wide branching roofs, its different buildings connected by arched corridors and windowed halls.

It is six A.M. Soon the sun will rise in a riot of splendor. Little stirrings of life manifest themselves in the "nurses' home" and gather rapidly in force until doors are thrown wide open, and from many throats we hear the old familiar greeting, "Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!" Some of us who are older answer back, "Happy Christmas!" and surely the happiest anniversary we can keep is the birthday of the Son of God, the Saviour of the World. To-day the message of the angels appeals strongly to us, "Peace on earth, good-will to man."

At 6.30 A.M. the nurses entered the breakfast room and found it prettily decorated with smilax, branches of the graceful pepper-trees, and great blossoms of regal crimson poinsettias. Beside each plate at the tables, lay a bottle of perfume and a floral calendar presented by the chief surgeon, Dr. Morrison, and the superintendent, Miss Montford.

As we left the breakfast-room we (by permission) visited the dining-rooms of the convalescents and the Mexicans, and were surprised at the clever and artistic decorations which we found were continued through the entire hospital. Smilax festooned the arches, bells hung everywhere, and jars containing roses and poinsettias filled corners and lent a beauty, transforming the "home for sick men" into a veritable fairyland.

And the men themselves, all variously hurt in the employ of the Santa Fe railway, tried to put away their pain behind smiles, and, whether lying in bed or drawn in wheel-chairs, or moving about in the freedom of returning health, one and all they shouted the happy greeting flourishing their presents or proudly telling how pleased the "Doc's" were with their little gifts. And the "Doc's" had the sunshine of California in their countenances as they saw in their "wee giftie" an appreciation of twelve months' work.

A very pretty menu had been prepared for dinner, promising the time-honored good things of gastronomic delight; and clever epigrams of a decidedly personal character were written on the back, which when read provoked much spontaneous laughter. There was one especially original and amusing, referring to a Miss O'Toole, who is nursing a Mr. Cutting.

"There are many diamonds in the rough.
But it takes a good tool to do for Cutting."

In the evening, a graphophone was placed in the first hall, and convalescents, nurses and visitors enjoyed its many selections.

At 9 p.m. all was silent, only the night-nurses glided in their white uniforms through the shadowed corridors, but sick and well all agreed that Christmas Day at Santa Fe would be among their pleasant memories.



Now Colorado is one of the seven states where the mother is equal with the father in the ownership of her own children; the age of consent has been raised to eighteen years; humane education has been made compulsory in the public schools; a state home for dependent children, and industrial schools for both girls and boys have been established; and a score of laws for the betterment of humanity have been secured through the endorsement and help of the women.—*The Union Signal*.